

Miter Saw Dust Hood

By Kreg Tool

Difficulty

Easy

A miter saw is one of the handiest tools you can own, and one of the messiest. The chips and sawdust it creates get everywhere. This dust hood helps corral the mess by giving it somewhere to go—into a dust collector or shop vacuum. You can build a hood for your saw from plywood and a few fittings.







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Tools

Kreg Tools



Other Tools

Circular Saw (corded)

Jigsaw

Miter Saw

Square

Tape Measure

Drill (cordless)

Sander

Materials

Wood Products

1 Plywood , 3/4" Thick , Full Sheet

Hardware & Supplies

- 37 11/4" Coarse-thread Pocket-hole Screws
- 1 Wood Glue
- 8 #8 X 3/4" Pan-head Screws
- 2 Dust-collection Hoods
- 1 Dust-collection Hose
- 5 Dust-collection Hose Clamps
- 1 Dust-collection "Y" Fitting
- 1 Trak & Stop Kit (Optional)

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Cut List & Parts

- 2 Side , 3/4" X 23 3/4" X 26 1/4" Plywood
- **1** Top , 3/4" X 6 1/2" X 31" Plywood
- 1 Back , 3/4" X 22 1/2" X 31" Plywood
- 1 Bottom , 3/4" X 31" X 31" Plywood
- 1 Lower Back , 3/4" X 13 1/2" X 31" Plywood



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Directions

Check Your Saw Size

This dust hood was built to fit a 10" sliding compound miter saw. The dimensions are generous, and should fit a lot of saws out there, but before you start cutting parts, you'll want to double check that yours will fit inside. To do that, swing the saw to full miter capacity in each direction, and measure the overall width. If that's more than 31", you'll need to make your hood wider. Also look at the overall depth required for your saw. From the front edge of the Bottom to the back of the hood, there's almost 40" of depth, so that probably won't be an issue.



Assess Your Saw Accessories

You also need to think about what you'll use for dust collection. Ours is connected to a woodworking dust collector that has 4"-diameter hose. So, we attached dust hoods of that size. If you're using a shop vacuum instead, you can get ports that work with 2 1/4" or 2 1/2" hose. You'll want to get your hoods first, and adjust the opening sizes accordingly. Finally, if you're wondering about the fence and stop system, we used the Precision Trak & Stop Kit from Kreg. The side wings were built using instructions that come with that kit.

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Cut the Sides

Cut two Sides to rough size from a 3/4" x 48" x 96" sheet of plywood, as shown in the cutting diagram. Next, cut the Sides to final shape with a circular saw or a jigsaw. Sand the cut edges smooth as needed, and then sand the surfaces of the Sides. If you're using better-quality "hardwood" plywood, such as birch, 150-grit sandpaper on a random-orbit sander should suffice. If you're using a lower-grade sanded ply, start with 100- or 120-grit.







Make the Back

Cut the Back to size, as shown in the cutting diagram. Set your pocket-hole jig for 3/4"-thick material, and then drill pocket holes in the Back at the locations shown. Finally, lay out the location of the dust port. Drill out the four corners of the hole with a 1/2" bit, and then cut out the dust port with a jigsaw and a fine tooth blade. Sand the opening smooth, and then sand the surfaces.



Make the Lower Back

Cut the Lower Back to size as shown in the cutting diagram. Drill pocket holes at the locations shown. Just as you did with the Back, lay out the location of the dust port in the Lower Back, and cut the opening. Then sand as you did on the other parts.



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Assemble the Backs

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Glue and clamp the Back and Lower Back together as shown, making a 90° Corner. Secure the parts together with 1 1/4" coarse-thread pocket-hole screws.



Attach the Backs to a Side

Lay one of the Sides flat on a work surface and then position the back assembly as shown. Apply glue to the edges and secure the back assembly to the Side using 11/4" coarse-thread pocket-hole screws.







Make the Top

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Cut the Top to size as shown in the cutting diagram. Drill pocket holes at the locations shown, and then sand the Top.



Attach the Top to One Side

Position the Top in place on the Side as shown. Apply glue to the edge and secure the Top to the Side using 11/4" coarsethread pocket-hole screws.





10 Make the Bottom Cut the Bottom to size a

Cut the Bottom to size as shown in the cutting diagram. Drill pocket holes at the locations shown.



Attach the Bottom

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Position the Bottom in place on the Side as shown. Apply glue to the edge and secure the Top to the Side with 11/4" coarsethread pocket-hole screws.







Add the Second Side

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Apply glue to the edges of the assembled parts and position the second side as shown. Secure the second Side to the other parts with 11/4" coarse-thread pocket-hole screws.



Add a Finish and Hoods

With the assembly complete, do any final sanding that's needed. Because this is a shop project, you could choose to leave it unfinished. That's fine, but adding a coat or two of wipe-on varnish will help keep the plywood clean, and will make the dust wipe off more easily. After you apply the finish, position the plastic dust hoods over the openings you cut in the Back and Lower Back, drill pilot holes and secure the hoods using #8 x 3/4" pan-head wood screws. Snug the hoods down, but don't over-drive the screws, as that could crack the plastic hoods.

Mount Your Saw

Position your saw on the Bottom, and make sure it's set so that the saw can swing, bevel, and slide like it's supposed to. Also make sure you can get to the handle and the power trigger. Then you can bolt your saw down. If you're incorporating the hood into a miter saw station, as we did, make sure the saw lines up with the fences before you bolt it down.

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